New England Deaconess Hospital

pulse

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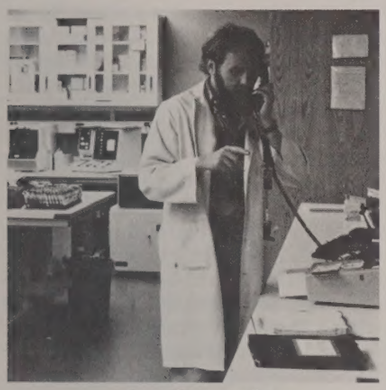

Tom Cavanaugh

A glimpse of Sweden, socialized medicine

During periods like the present when our newspapers bring painful daily reminders of the ravages of inflation in America, it sometimes pays to look at other countries to gain a fresh perspective.

Recently, a Deaconess laboratory technologist, Thomas Cavanaugh, received that opportunity. As part of a co-op exchange medical technology program at Northeastern University in Boston, Mr. Cavanaugh worked for six months at Helsingborg Hospital, a new 700-bed general care facility near Malmo, Sweden.

Under socialized medicine and a centralized hospital system, Sweden is divided into seven medical care regions which are composed of 26 primary care districts. Each district is served by a pyramid of strategically placed hospitals which range in size from 300-2300 beds.

Mr. Cavanaugh found both the equipment and laboratory techniques at Helsingborg as up to date or better than those offered at the best facilities in the United States. Probably the most visual example of this was a central computer at Helsingborg which permitted attending physicians speedy access to patient laboratory test results.

As a student, Mr. Cavanaugh received special status within Swedish society that enabled him to enjoy a higher standard of living than other workers. He was allowed to live in the hospital dormitory for $46 a month, which included all utilities and a maid. His annual salary of $12,000 (about 2/3 of his normal U.S. wages) was taxed at a reduced rate of 26% instead of the customary 40%.

Mr. Cavanaugh also discovered that Sweden's 8.3 million citizens must contend with a far more powerful government and much stronger labor unions than in the U.S. For its part, the

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Nightfall

It's almost 10 p.m. and a summer's evening has peacefully settled over the Deaconess by the Riverway bringing with it a cooling balm from the day's searing heat. Here and there a scattering of lights pierce the dark. Now and again the stillness is broken by the screech of a passing car but for the most part, a calmness rules.

Only a few hours ago all was hubbub as the day shift left. To the casual eye, the steady outpouring of white uniforms would surely indicate that the hospital was being abandoned to the night, deserted until the birth of a fresh day.

But this seeming tranquility only masks the work that continues during the evening and night shifts. As a hospital, the Deaconess never sleeps. Patients require care and attention around the clock. Those just recovering from the operating room as well as patients anxiously awaiting surgery or the many other treatments that abound, need a watchful eye, some

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J. Kilkelly named personnel director

John J. Kilkelly has been appointed Director of Personnel at New England Deaconess Hospital, replacing Robert Giroux, who recently left to assume a position with Nixdorf Computer Corporation. Mr. Kilkelly, who started on August 6, will be responsible for employee relation matters throughout the hospital including such functions as employment, salary and

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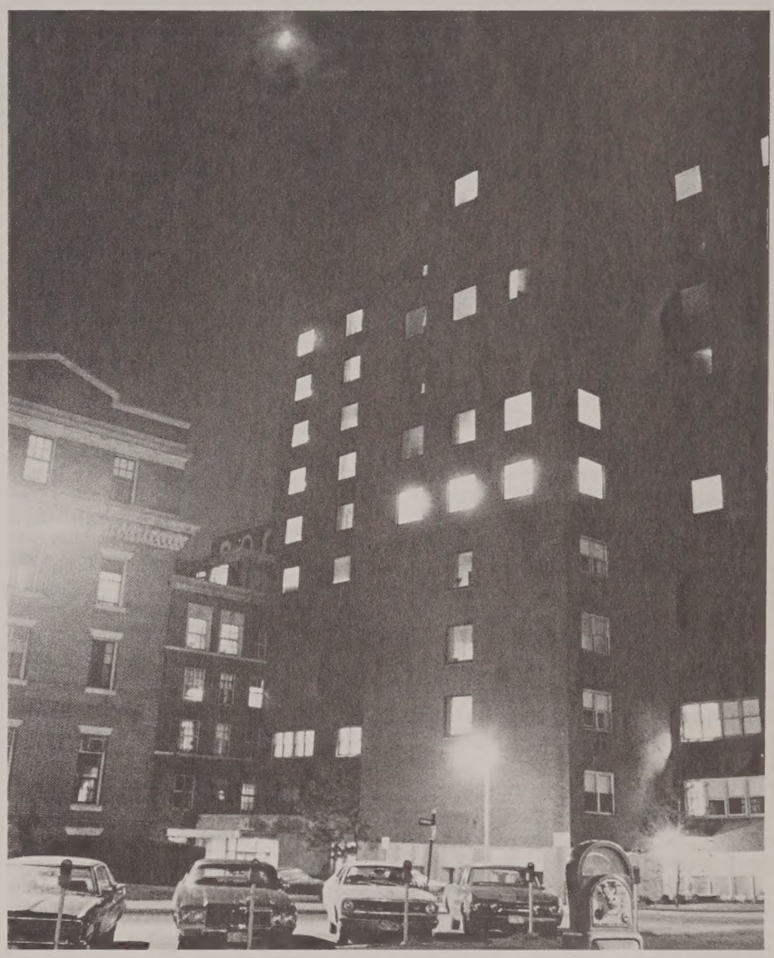
John J. Kilkelly



Night worker James Murphy:

"Why Work Nights? . . .

Well, for one thing, the benefits are impressive, if one is constitutionally capable of accepting the hours (and probably most people are). There is less noise and fewer people. One can escape the pandemonium and the subliminal aggression sometimes induced by increased decibels and the close cramming of bodies. The atmosphere is more peaceful, more relaxed and apparently devoid of bureaucracy. This seems to reduce conflict and all departments are loath to drag out the institutional machinery created to deal with the conflict (gripe lists, complaints to superiors, incident reports, etc.). Good contact and relations exist between the departments of the hospital during the evening shift, aided no doubt by periodic interdepartmental conferences after work at a local establishment.

Parking and traffic are no longer problems. The night salary differential is nice, too, and there exists the element of team work on our shift. Furthermore, people may find that they need less sleep than when they worked days. Doing errands, access to beaches and tennis courts – it's all so simple early in the day. The theaters that are jammed at night are almost empty at the noon-time shows.

One compelling personal reason for preferring night lab work is the variety of tasks we do. We avoid pigeonholing people into assigning areas. Sitting in front of a machine grinding out enzymes or creatinines is tedious and alienating only relieved when the instrument requires trouble-shooting or when one learns that among the patients tested was a person one has met face-to-face. Even operating the SMA's, the lab equivalent of "driving the big rigs," is not remarkably unlike running a fender-installing machine in an automotive assembly factory.

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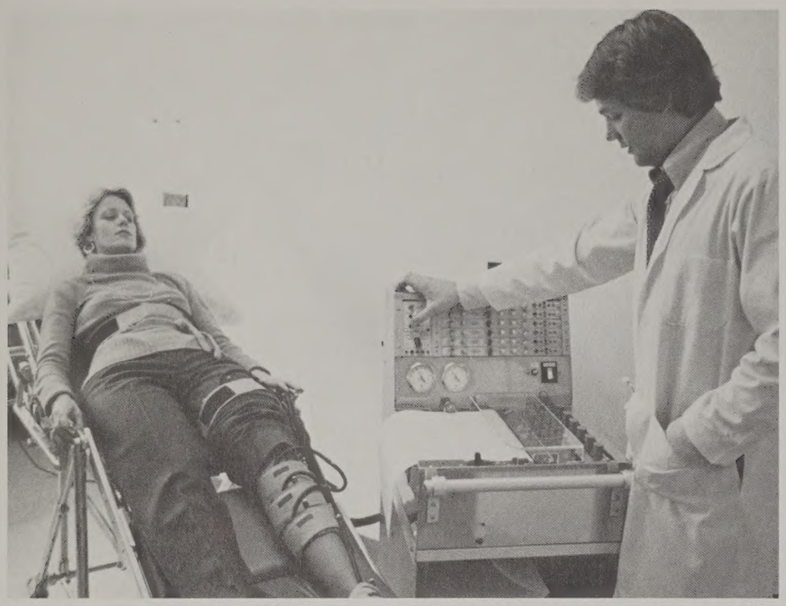

Steven Griffey, chief technician in the vascular lab, demonstrates the Phleborheograph (PRG), which diagnoses phlebitis and other obstructions in the legs' deep venous system.

Vascular lab acquires a PRG for analyzing venous system

Diagnosing phlebitis and the presence of obstruction to the outflow of blood from the deep venous channels of the leg will be easier now that the Deaconess Vascular Laboratory has acquired a Phleborheograph (PRG). A generous engineer, expressing a desire to further the hospital's ability to practice modern medicine, donated the $7500 machine to the hospital four months ago.

The PRG, being noninvasive, is completely safe and painless. During the procedure, the patient lies on the examining table while small blood pressure cuffs placed on each leg record changes in blood volume. Cyclic volume changes reflect the status of the venous system. If an obstruction is present, a characteristic tracing is produced on a graph.

By analyzing the graph, not only can the obstruction be detected but also the exact location of the clot, how well the body has compensated for the clot by developing collaterals (vessels to carry blood past the obstruction), and what damage might have been done to the valves of the veins.

The PRG was developed in 1975, and extensive clinical use since that time has proven it to be highly accurate in the diagnosis of acute deep venous thrombisis. The noninvasive vascular laboratory at the Lahey Clinic has owned a PRG for three years.

Since the PRG demonstrates the entire status of the venous system, it has also been very valuable in assessing patients with chronic venous disease.

The Vascular Laboratory is supervised by Dr. Alfred V. Persson, Lahey Clinic and NEDH, and Dr. Gary Gibbons, NEDH, and employs two full-time technicians.

Changing eating habits – the key to diet workshop's success

Three meals a day of steak and grapefruit; the "magic formula" which promises to burn off pounds of fat in two days; a "drinking man's diet" based on unlimited alcohol consumption; the "ice cream diet". The preceding "fad diets" may have the immediate effect of weight loss, but in the long run the "diets" don't change eating habits, can't be adhered to for long, and, most important of all, they can be nutritionally inadequate and dangerous.

Ruth Clark, staff project dietitian, and Joni Youngwirth, dietary project coordinator, have put together a program to help employees lose weight by changing their eating habits, not just during the course of a diet, but for a lifetime.

Ms. Clark and Ms. Youngwirth are currently conducting their third workshop. The ten-week pilot workshop this past Spring with six employees resulted in an average weight loss of 1.16 lbs. a week; 11.5 lbs. per participant for the entire workshop; and a group weight loss of 70 lbs. The second workshop (eight weeks) with seven participants had an average weight loss of .98 lbs. a week; 7.85 lbs. per employee for the eight weeks; and a group weight loss of 55 lbs.

"A weight loss of one pound a week is considered to be a good rate," said Ms. Clark, "We try not to make the group too structured. The employees decided on an $8 fee and on requirements for attending the workshop, such as keeping a detailed food diary five out of seven days a week. If the requirements are met, then the fee is returned."

The workshops presently meet for 45 minutes a week, for ten weeks. Besides food diaries and group discussions, Ms. Clark and Ms. Youngwirth present information on nutrition and cardio-vascular fitness, including an exercise demonstration by Physical Therapists Pam Falco and Cathy Trumbowitz. "Our goal is to make the participants aware of their eating patterns – why do they over-eat at certain times? If it's because of depression or stress, we try to find a way to release that tension through other means rather than food," said Ms. Clark.

Gene Killeen, print shop supervisor, lost 18 lbs. during the second workshop. He joined to learn about food selection, "I wasn't eating that much, but I didn't know what I needed to eat in order to lose. I've been on other diets, but eating grapefruit, lettuce and carrots just doesn't work. On this diet I learned how to eat in the right proportions and how to change my life patterns. You get out of the diet what you put into it. Success depends on how well you discipline yourself."

Delores LaDisda, accounting, also lost 18 lbs. during her session. "Obesity is the result of how one behaves when faced with certain situations such as stress, fatigue or anger. It's a disease which is never conquered and must be fought every day. I made myself aware of my responses to various situations and then tried to change my behavior."

Alpha Credit Union Manager Bob Desmond, who lost 20 lbs., also benefited from the program's emphasis on nutritional education and behavior modification. "You soon realize that you really don't have to give up anything – you simply learn to control your intake, to begin eating only when you're actually hungry and not just from habit."

Maintaining weight control after the workshop is completed is a concern of the organizers and participants. Ms. Clark plans to schedule time to see workshop "graduates" once a week. For further information on the diet workshops, please contact Ruth Clark at ext. 2-8186 or Joni Youngwirth, ext. 2-8180.

Kilkelly

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benefits administration, personnel records and training.

Mr. Kilkelly brings to his new post an extensive background in employee relations acquired over the last 19 years. For the past four years, he was director of personnel at Lone Star Industries in Miami, Florida, a building materials firm which is the largest producer of cement in the United States. Prior to his employment at Lone Star, he held positions as an assistant to the vice-president of employee benefits at Delta Airlines in Atlanta, Georgia and as personnel manager at several International Telephone and Telegraph plants in New England.

A native Bostonian and Boston College graduate, Mr. Kilkelly is currently househunting and hopes to bring his wife, Pat and sons Jack, 16, Tom, 14 and Bryan, 11 from Miami shortly.

Mr. Kilkelly is a member of the American Society for Personnel Administration and a past member of the New England Society of Personnel Management and the Personnel Manager's Club of the Greater Boston Chamber of Commerce.

Deaconess News in Brief

Deaconess Mechanic receives Humanitarian Award

Duncan Preston, hospital mechanic, received an Humanitarian Award from the Montclair Men's Club in Quincy on September 5. The award was in recognition of his assistance in an offshore rescue. On August 2, Mr. Preston joined three other men in rescuing two Quincy residents who had capsized in their canoe and were stranded a mile off the Houghs Neck shoreline for nearly seven hours. Mr. Preston, of Squantum, was awakened about 3:30 a.m. by a report over his police scanner. He rushed across the street to help a neighbor who had heard the boatmens' cries. Along with his neighbor and two policemen, Mr. Preston boarded a boat and headed in the direction of the voices. "The weather was foggy, so we had to go by sound," said Mr. Preston, "The guys were just a bit wrinkled and scared. Thank God it was a warm night and the water wasn't too cold." Mr. Preston, who has assisted in similiar accidents, doesn't think the rescue was such a "big deal." "People are always out there – all we did was haul them out of the water."

New Print Shop Foreman

Eugene Killeen, former printing teacher at the Whittier Technical and Vocational High School in Haverhill, took over the position of print shop foreman on June 11. Mr. Killeen, who lives in North Quincy with his wife, Mary, and five children, is currently studying for a BS in education at Fitchburg State College.

Dietary Staff members complete course, attend conference

Mary Freedman, cafeteria supervisor, and **Elaine Mahon,** food service supervisor, recently completed a one-year dietetic assistant program at Bunker Hill Community College. The program, which included courses in nutrition, sanitation, and personnel management, certifies the women for membership in HIEFSS (Hospital Institutional Educational Food Service Society).

Joyce B. Tower, director of dietetics, attended the American Dietetic Association Site Evaluators' Workshop in Chicago on July 26 and 27, where she made a presentation on "The Clinical Component of a Generalist Dietetic Internship."

United Way campaign at NEDH

September 17 marks the kick-off date for our annual support campaign for the United Way. A goal of $29,000 has been set for the hospital according to Martin Cernek, keyperson for the 1979 campaign, and Suzanne Holloran, keyperson elect. The 162 United Way member agencies provide a wide range of health, counseling, family, child care, or other services to one out of four persons in the Massachusetts Bay area.

Getting by with a little help from the Friends

When Cicero said, ". . . friendship makes prosperity brighter while it lightens adversity by sharing grief and anxiety," how could he know he was really describing the Friends of the Deaconess. In fact, the prosperity of the Gift Shop, Thrift Shop, Deaconess Night At Pops, and the Christmas Bazaar are vital to help lighten the "grief and anxiety" of patients who fill the New England Deaconess Hospital annually.

This effort started 48 years ago when a womens' committee was organized to help raise money for new equipment, renovations, and volunteer activities. It was formalized in 1942, when the committee was incorporated as Friends of the Deaconess. From its beginning in 1931 and for the next 30 years, the Friends provided the materials necessary for making surgical dressings. Sometimes as many as 33 women gathered at weekly meetings for the preparation of these dressings. The meetings continued until the hospital turned to the purchase of ready-made dressings in 1960, but that same spirit has prevailed through the years as raise money for scholarships. On the second Sunday of each December a cherished tradition continues as the Friends hold an Open House in the Farr lobby to greet patients, families, and visitors with a warm welcome of doughnuts, cider and coffee. Dr. and Mrs. Shields Warren have donated the cider since the first open house many years ago.

numerous other projects have been undertaken.

The Friends served as Red Cross Gray Ladies during World War II. In 1940, they instituted Deaconess Night At Pops at Symphony Hall, which continues to be an annual event. Early rummage sales evolved in 1951 into a permanent Thrift Shop operated by the Friends in space provided by the hospital. And in 1953, a cheery coffee shop offering home-cooked food became a reality and was run by the Friends for the next 20 years before becoming part of the hospital's direct budget.

Currently the Friends operate a beautiful Gift Shop with annual proceeds of over $20,000 going to the hospital. The Friends work directly with patients by visiting with a library cart and an arts and crafts cart offering divertional therapy to those who desire it. The Friends sponsor an annual Christmas Bazaar in conjunction with Alumnae of the School of Nursing to

The Gift Shop

One of the most popular and successful projects of the Friends is the Gift Shop located just opposite the main entrance to the Deaconess. The prime location and accessibility help attract thousands of Deaconess visitors, staff members and employees. The volunteers project a feeling of welcome to customers and browsers alike.

The nature of the Deaconess as a renowned institution with many areas of medical specialization attracts visitors from across the United States and from many foreign countries as well. Over the years the Gift Shop has succeeded greatly in enhancing the Deaconess' image through the diligent efforts of the volunteers and the knowledge of its chairmen. The current chairman, Mrs. Lauriston Ward, Jr., (Dorothy-Lee Jones Ward) continues the tradition. Her background as a well-known lecturer on glass and ceramics and as founder and curator of the Study Gallery at Douglas Hill, Maine, shows itself in the many choice collectors' pieces included among the items for sale in the shop.

The Thrift Shop

Traditionally, Thrift Shops have been volunteer activities intended to contribute towards institutional needs. At the Deaconess, under the direction of co-chairmen, Mrs. Laurence Dakin and Mrs. George Rohrbough, we have been particularly fortunate in having a shop staffed by an enthusiastic group of volunteers who offer attractive, saleable merchandise at fair prices.

An outgrowth of the old-fashioned rummage sale, for over 25 years the Deaconess Thrift Shop has been open year-round continually turning over its inventory of clothing, books, bric-a-brack, collectibles, and treasures – all donated and all tax deductible. Many thousands of dollars from sales have been contributed toward building funds and specialized equipment for the hospital. The ladies of the shop, all members of the Friends, welcome you as a donor, a buyer, a browser, and a friend.

Gift Shop

Arts and Crafts

For the past 20 years, a Friends' craft cart has brought comfort to patients throughout the hospital. Embroidery, needlepoint, leather to be laced, yarn dolls, and animals to be stuffed are among the novelties offered. No charge is made for the service but contributions make it possible to replenish the cart. Currently the cart is staffed two days a week. More volunteers are needed for a daily operation.

A very special outgrowth of the diversional program has been "Coffee and Conversation" hour on Farr 10 each Monday at two o'clock with a Board member, Mrs. John Agnew, as hostess. This program, which was suggested by the medical staff, makes it possible for patients and families from throughout the hospital to have a social hour in the solarium.

Christmas Bazaar

It is hard to conjure up visions of Santa and holly and cheer for the holidays when the temperature reads 90°, but that's what the Friends have been doing this summer. Preparations have already begun for the Christmas Decorations Table where festive baskets and wreaths, door swags, tree ornaments and centerpieces have always proven a big hit. This year's table should prove especially attractive because Mrs. Fouad Hamawy, as chairman, has been working with a

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Miss Dorothy Seccomb, Mrs. George Dempsey and Mrs. Lauriston Ward Jr. hostess a Friends' Christmas tea.

Thrift Shop co-chairmen Mrs. George Rohrbough (r.) and Mrs. Laurence P. Dakin admire a contribution.

group of ladies since June at Lita Siagel's Tiger Lily Flower Shop turning out a host of imaginative Christmas crafts.

The first Friday in December is the traditional date for the bazaar which is eagerly anticipated by all who attend. The sale features Christmas cards, toys, candy, decorations, flower arrangements, food, handmade articles, plants and white elephant gifts.

This year's co-chairmen, Mrs. George Dempsey and Mrs. John Rowbotham will have as table chairmen for the Household Table, Mrs. L. Tillman McDaniel and Mrs. Robert Bradley. They are accepting as contributions articles which are useable year round but also make good Christmas gifts, such as aprons, wall hangings, pillows, tea towels, pot holders, etc.

Two of the most popular attractions each year are the Candy Table, organized by the Nurses Alumnae Association and staffed by Mrs. Phyllis Giardini, and the White Elephant Table, arrayed with treasures collected through the year and staffed by Mrs. Janet Clinton, Residency Director of Kennedy Hall

Mrs. Vernon Dick and Mrs. Elton Watkins, Jr., are the experienced chairmen of the Food Table. Baked goods of all kinds are received from doctors' wives and from good cooks on the hospital staff who share their talents.

Two pleasant surprises occurred at last year's bazaar with the heartening successes of the plant table and recycled toys. The May plant sale repeated the Christmas sellout so plans are being made by Mrs. George Dempsey and Mrs. Gardner M. Brown to make more plants available. Mrs. Steven Hershenow's donation of toys last year was the nucleus of the Toy Table as both new and used toys and games sold very well. Mrs. M. Duncan Harris, chairman of the Toy Table, is contacting manufacturers and distributors for donations, but our best suppliers will continue to be *you,* for the hospital family is always generous in its response.

Handmade items are quickly sold whether they be crocheted, knitted, or stitched. We are still trying to locate the creator of the quilted vests made in small sizes which were so popular last year and sold quickly. Donations for this and other bazaar tables may be left in the Volunteer Office now located on the first floor of Harris Hall next to the library.

A quiet corner is set aside at the Bazaar for Christmas cards. Mrs. John Agnew studies the catalogues during the summer and selects an attractive variety of items suitable for all. A suggestion has been made that the Friends take orders for individualized Christmas cards. If enough people are interested in this, Christmas card catalogues will be made available through the Friends' office at Harris Hall.

Mrs. C. Cabell Bailey helps a patient relax with an item from the diversional therapy cart.

Christmas Bazaar

Membership

Whether it be Pops, Bazaar, or other functions of the Friends, everyone is welcome to join and to volunteer. There are now almost 500 members including life members. Membership is open to all men and women who are interested in the hospital and its goals. Annual dues have remained at $3 for many years although many elect to pay $10 sustaining membership fee or even make the prudent investment of $100 for life membership. Among the advantages of membership are direct mailings of invitations for the annual meeting, Pops, and special fund raising events.

During World War I, the famous recruiting poster of the huge face of Uncle Sam stating, "Uncle Sam Needs You!" reached out to all Americans. Now more than ever, the **New England Deaconess Hospital needs you!** Hospitals are more than buildings and equipment. They are people. The physicians, nurses, dietitians, social workers, aides, and all the devoted employees at every level – and, most of all, the patients need you! Won't you Join the Friends of the Deaconesss Now? Your cost in time, effort, and money is nothing compared to the rich rewards you'll receive from replacing some of the "grief and anxiety" of others with the gifts of happiness and caring.

The membership year starts October 1 and your first invitation will be to attend the annual meeting on October 16. A demonstration of cardiopulmonary resuscitation and the Heimlich Maneuver (clearing an obstructed airway) is planned following a brief business meeting.

The Friends calendar as of this date includes:

October 16 – Annual Meeting
December 7 — Bazaar
December 8 or 15 – Holiday Open House
April – Fund Raising Event
May or June – Pops

Mrs. Leo P. Krall, president of the Friends of the Deaconess, presents a check for $50,000 to NEDH President Laurens MacLure for a five-story addition to the Cancer Research Institute.

Mrs. Gordan Fullerton, membership chairman, and the officers and board of the Friends cordially invite you to join the:

FRIENDS OF THE DEACONESS, INC.

Membership year begins October 1st.

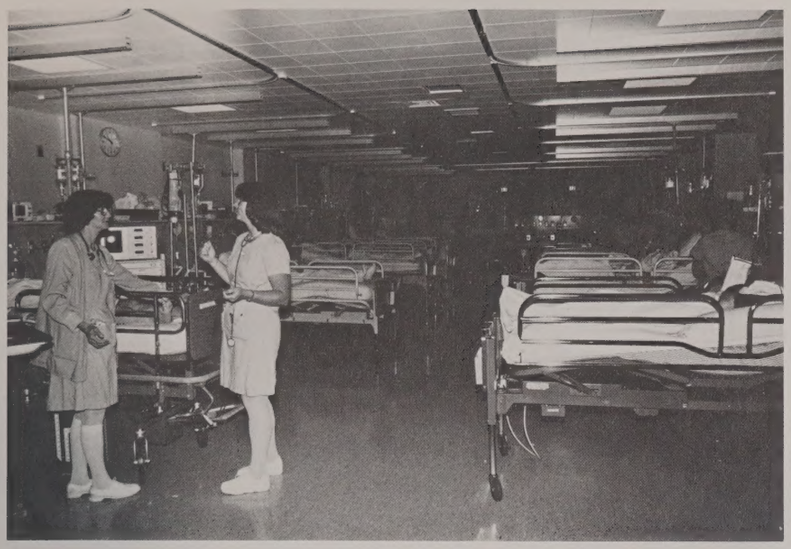
Life Membership	$100.00
Sustaining Membership	10.00
Annual Dues	3.00

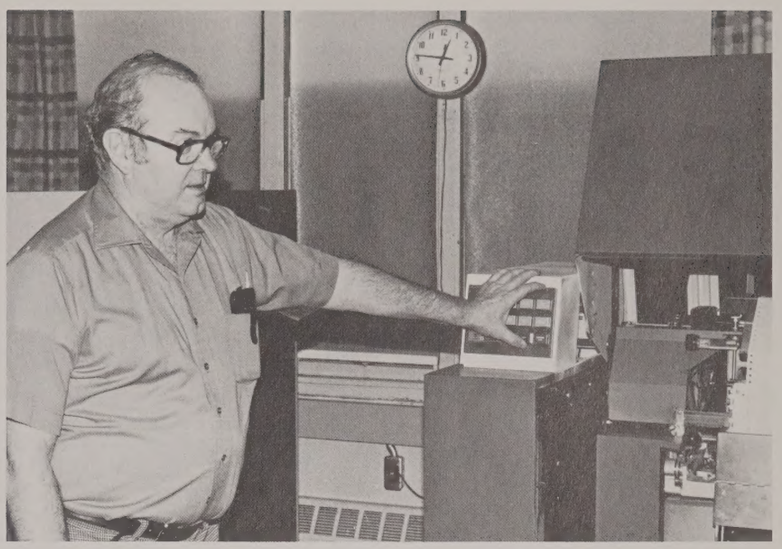
NAME_____ ADDRESS_____

ZIP_____ PHONE_____

Please make checks payable to the FRIENDS OF THE DEACONESS, INC.

Mail to MEMBERSHIP TREASURER: MRS. ELTON WATKINS, JR.
Volunteer Office
25 Deaconess Road
Boston, MA 02215





Nightfall

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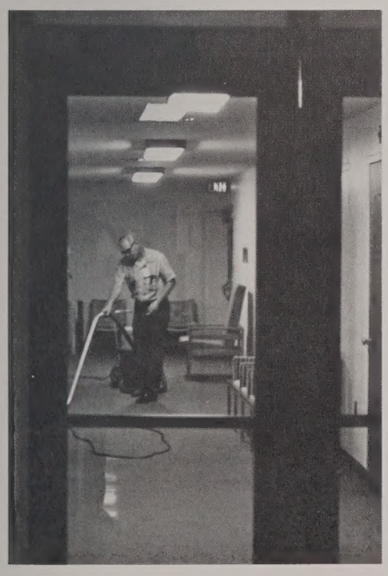
skilled hands and a comforting word during the night.

For some hospital departments, evening affords a well-deserved pause in the day's hectic pace, a chance to repair for the next day. For others, night brings heightened vigilance as medical teams battle to save lives from slipping away.

Outside the hospital another drama unfolds as security forces patrol to keep the peace. Sergeant William Baron of First Security starts his night by escorting several Farr 11 nurses to their car at the Pilgrim Road garage. On the way back, he pauses flashlight in hand to check the double doors of the Cancer Research Institute. All is secure. Security is tight and all visitors must now be "buzzed" through a locked door into the Farr lobby by receptionist Kevin Niland.



The main corridors, hallways and lobbies are still brightly lit but the crowds have strangely disappeared. The hundreds of people who by day mill about, thumb through newspapers while awaiting word of a family member's condition, hurry to keep an appointment and bear flowers to patients have vanished into the night. Their departure permits a small army of cleaners from building services to advance on the scene with brooms, mops and floor polishers. Down the hall Thomas Carson uses a vacuum cleaner to apply the finishing touches to the Executive Office Suite. Gradually, everything takes on a renewed sense of shine and order for the next day's business.

Meanwhile, upstairs in the recovery room, the nursing staff is working at full throttle. A busy day in the operating rooms has filled every bed with patients who will need constant attention for the next 12-20 hours. Electronic blips peak and valley their way across individual monitor screens, telling different tales about each patient.

Nurses Margaret Hackett and Marilyn Jossa check the IV fluid of a 24-year-old male who underwent surgery for the removal of a tumor of the pituitary gland. Right now he's in pain and wants more medication. They reassure him that it won't be long before he gets relief.

The approach of shift change at 11:30 p.m. brings on a last minute flurry of activity as evening personnel race to update patient charts and reports and complete other work. At the Farr 7 nursing station, unit secretary Rebecca Rolke, has transcribed a batch of physician orders and is busy typing pre-op orders for the next day. In surgical services, Eileen O'Connell's crew of 6 is emptying the 270° steam autoclave sterilizer of the last bundles of operating room instruments, sheets, towels and gowns. And respiratory therapist John Canty is administering a treatment to an asthmatic patient on Farr 8.

Shift change brings a deepening mood as the wee hours approach. John Henning and the 11 o'clock news is over and with it many patients seek solace in slumber. Others will turn to Johnny Carson.

For the next 8 hours, Curt Audin, nursing service, will make hourly rounds down the dimly lit corridors of Farr 3 giving medications and checking vital signs. So far everything has been quiet. Earlier reports indicate that it will probably remain so tonight.

Up at data processing on the Deaconess roof, "A Theme From a Summer Place" is playing softly as Robert Irving programs a computer for a large run of in-patient billings. Nighttime means production work, a period to use the computers to catch up on a mountain of daily entries.

Time drifts by. It's 1 a.m. and a car crash on the Riverway brings a 29-year-old male to the observation unit suffering from trauma and possible chest injuries. Dr. Marilyn Capek, one of the residents on duty, orders a series of x-rays. They prove negative and the man is treated and sent home.

No sooner has he left than a 49-year-old male, himself a physician, appears complaining of abdominal pains. As part of the patient's work up, William Campbell of the hematology lab does a complete blood chemistry. The results indicate a possible kidney problem and the physician is admitted for further tests.

Two a.m. – many night workers arrive singly and in small groups at the Coffee Shop. With the cafeteria long since closed, the shop is the only place, until it closes at 3:30 a.m., to enjoy conversation over a bite to eat. For many employees, working at night and being part of a smaller staff fosters a special feeling of comradery.

"People are much more relaxed and friendly at night and easier to work with," says Paul Simon, dietary host, as he serves up an order of sandwiches and chips to nurses Angela Johnson, Pamela Palmer, Gail Spellman and Margaret Hackett.

At 3:27 a.m. a fire alarm sounds in the Hospital's telecommunications center. Operator Marjorie Walsh notifies the Boston Fire Department of the location and alerts Night Administrator Nancy Whelan and the maintenance and security departments. Maintenance man Herbert Anderson hurries over to the 5th floor of the School of Nursing's Kennedy Building. Red lights flash on and off as several fire engines pull to the curb. Fortunately, this time it's only a faulty smoke alarm detector.

Four a.m. – the Deaconess has now settled into its deepest stillness. Nurses continue to make their rounds down darkened floors and with the exception of an occasional moan, all is steeped in silence.

For most night workers, the next hour is the most difficult. Small talk at the nursing stations fails to dispell the pervasive sense of solitude that reigns for this while.

Shortly after 5 a.m. subtle changes mark a renewal around the hospital. Birds start singing. The horizon as seen from the Farr 10 solarium turns gradually from jet black to gray to light blue. Meissner Laboratory workers draw recovery room day bloods. And nurse Lyn Sturdevant awakens a patient on Palmer 4 to prep her for early morning surgery.

The Deaconess is returning to life. Reports are completed and filed. Newly arriving replacements, fresh from sleep, are briefed. Duties are exchanged. Then it's off to the cafeteria for an eye-opening breakfast of bacon and eggs. Then home.

Another night has passed.

Why work nights?

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At night, we see patients when they are admitted to OBV. We draw their blood and do their ECG's. Then in the lab, we run their tests. When follow-up blood work is needed during the night, we see them again. If they are transferred to another floor or undergo emergency surgery, we follow them through the night. This holistic view of the patient's progress and constant re-exposure to the patient as a person is more absorbing than knowing the patient only as a name on the daysheet. One gets interested in a patient's history and the method of treatment being used, for example.

Finally, among the attractive features of working nights, one cannot omit the magnetic draw of night itself. There exists a prenatural appeal of leading a night time existence, of coming alive just as the world is entering a state of suspended animation. The ritual observance of these hours comes to feel curiously harmonious. Fleeting recollections surface of our shadowy New England heritage, its stark landscape, ghostly shipwrecks and old graveyards; the House of Seven Gables, the Devil and Daniel Webster, the curse upon all the descendants of the Salem judges. As we lovingly savor these toothsome relics of the past and present we thank our stars for whatever peculiar magic it was witch (?) possessed us to become nightworkers."

Director of Nursing Ellen Howland, Lois Preston, associate director of nursing, and Bonnie Pfenninghaus, night supervisor (L-R), admire a water color which was given in memory of Nancy Ferguson, L.P.N. Mrs. Ferguson was a nurse at NEDH from 1965-78. The water color, inscribed in "loving memory by her many friends," was painted by artist Marcia Gibbons of Wellesley, and hangs in the nursing office.

Deaconess family mourns deaths of Drs. Crehan, Pyle

Dr. Joseph P. Crehan, 64, a member of the Lahey Clinic and NEDH staffs, died on August 10 after a prolonged illness.

A resident of Medford, he was a graduate of Boston Latin School, Worcester Academy, Dartmouth College and Boston University School of Medicine.

After serving in World War II, and doing general practice in Maryland, Dr. Crehan returned to Boston for his residency. He joined the Lahey Clinic's anesthesiology department in 1951, and was appointed to the Deaconess staff two years later. In 1964 he was named director of the Hospital's respiratory therapy division. He also served on the staff of the New England Baptist Hospital.

Dr. Crehan wrote many articles for medical journals and was an early advocate of monitoring the hearts of all patients undergoing anesthesia and surgery. Dr. Crehan's theory is an accepted operating room practice today.

He is survived by his wife, Doris (Marquis) and a son and daughter.

Dr. Hugh M. Pyle, 55, NEDH staff, died at the Newton-Wellesley Hospital on August 10 of a brain tumor. He had served as internist and hematologist on the staff at the New England Deaconess Hospital since 1957.

Dr. Pyle was a resident of Weston. He graduated from Boston University School of Medicine. After serving in World War II and the Korean War, he was discharged from the Air Force as a captain.

In addition to his work at the Deaconess, Dr. Pyle had been a member of the staffs of New England Baptist, Peter Bent Brigham, Newton-Wellesley, and Glover Memorial Hospitals, and of the Center for Blood Research.

He served on the board of directors of the American Cancer Society, was a fellow in the American College of Physicians, and won a distinguished service award from the American Medical Association in 1959.

Dr. Pyle is survived by his wife, Elizabeth (Manson), four daughters and a son.

ELEVENTH ANNUAL ALUMNAE REUNION DAY
NOVEMBER 3, 1979

Audrey K. Kennedy Hall
1 Autumn St., Boston, Massachusetts 02115

8:30 – 9:30	Coffee and Registration
10:00 – 10:45	Business Meeting — Auditorium
11:00 – 12:00	Program: "Life in the Chinese Republic in 1978" - A Slide Show Presentation by Bonnie Phenninghaus, R.N., Night Supervisor, N.E.D.H.
12:45	Luncheon at Longwood Towers; Presiding: Carol Harris Livington, President of NEDH School of Nursing Alumnae Association. Greetings from Laurens MacLure, President of NEDH.

In order to accommodate everyone at the luncheon, we must ask for advance registration. Donations of $10.00 and the reservation card must be sent by October 19 to: Priscilla Archibald, 63 Hollywood Road, West Roxbury, Massachusetts 02132.

Parking is available at the 110 Francis Street and Pilgrim Road garages.

Alumnae Reunion Day

Name _____
first maiden married

Class _____ I plan to attend: Yes (_____) No(_____)

NOTE: Please enclose a check for $10.00 made out to the Alumnae Association of the School of Nursing of the New England Deaconess Hospital and send to Priscilla Archibald, 63 Hollywood Road, West Roxbury, Massachusetts 02132. Deadline 10/19/79

Also, please inform Miss Howland of any plans to hold reunions in conjunction with Alumnae Day.

Cavanaugh

(continued from page 1)

Swedish government levies especially heavy income taxes on individuals for such social programs as free education and medical care and subsidized apartment housing. The level of taxation increases directly with rising incomes. A state worker in Sweden makes approximately $4,000 to $6,000 a year, 41% of which is withheld in taxes. The average physician starts at approximately $12,000 a year and can make up to $20,000 or $30,000, 60% of which goes to taxes.

Strong labor unions act as a partial buffer to strong government in Sweden. Three giant unions, (SACO) white collar professionals including physicians, (TCO) salaried professional worker and (LO) blue collar workers, represent virtually every worker in the economy. Since high income taxes make any pay increases virtually meaningless, unions strike over better fringe benefits, longer vacations, 30-hour workweeks and safer working conditions.

Perhaps the greatest shock to Mr. Cavanaugh was the cost of consumer items in Sweden, prices which he says make everything in the U.S. look "dirt cheap." The most modest of houses costs $100,000. A standard suburban 3-bedroom ranch fetches $400,000, and 50-year mortgages are often passed on from one generation to the next. New automobiles begin at $10,000, therefore, many people drive older cars or ride bicycles. And the next time you drive into a gas station and say, "fill it up," consider it a bargain. Gasoline currently sells for $2.05 per gallon in Sweden.

New England Deaconess Hospital **pulse**

The New England Deaconess Hospital is a 489-bed and 14-building complex. Physicians from the Joslin Clinic, the Lahey Clinic, Overholt Thoracic Clinic and the general medical and surgical staffs serve the needs of their patients at the hospital. The Deaconess is internationally known for diagnosis, treatment and research in brain and chest surgery, cancer, diabetes and general medicine, and is affiliated with Harvard Medical School.

PULSE is published monthly by the public relations department of the New England Deaconess Hospital.

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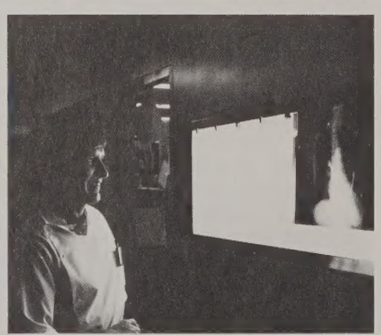

Nightime at the Deaconess (see page 1).

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